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REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 29 January 1993 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a letter from His Excellency Mr. Radoje Kontić, Vice-President of the Federal Government concerning the extension of the mandate of UNPROFOR in the territory of the former Yugoslavia (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under the item entitled "Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIC
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

ANNEX

Letter dated 29 January 1993 from the Vice-President of Yugoslavia addressed to the Secretary-General

Proceeding from the request of the Government of Yugoslavia and the report and recommendations of the United Nations Secretary-General, and pursuant to Security Council resolution 721 (1991), the Security Council decided on 21 February 1992 (resolution 743 (1992)) to deploy the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in the territory of the former Yugoslavia for an initial 12-month period.

By the aforementioned Security Council resolution and other relevant United Nations documents, it has been established that the United Nations Protection Force would remain in the protected areas until a general political solution was found to the Yugoslav crisis, and that its mandate would be renewed should the negotiations fail to produce such a solution.

In view of the fact that the initial mandate of the United Nations Protection Force is soon to expire, I wish to inform you that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia calls most strongly for the continuation of the peace operation, on which the Security Council will adopt a relevant decision based on your report.

After the brutal war against the Serbian people in the territories of Krajina initiated by Croatia and aimed at its violent secession, and after the numerous unsuccessful attempts at mediation by the European Community in order to quell the conflict, the United Nations has devoted its utmost attention to the civil war in the territories of Serbian Krajina, bearing in mind the seriousness of the situation and the risk of the spread of hostilities into the broader Balkan region.

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia firmly upholds the position that the setting up of the peace operation was unavoidable and that the deployment of UNPROFOR units in Krajina, populated by Serbian people, was indispensable.

Over the past year, thanks to the involvement of UNPROFOR, a fragile peace was maintained and further confrontation and armed conflicts were avoided. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia expected that the ongoing peace process would accelerate the reaching of solutions, by means of which peaceful life and security would be assured the population in the zones under UNPROFOR protection.

The negotiating process in Geneva - in which the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has been participating very actively - is an ongoing one. The initial results are in sight. Unfortunately the most recent aggression by Croatia against the territory under UNPROFOR protection is a classic example of flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations and of the Vance

Plan, which was noted by the Security Council in its resolution 802 (1993) and statements by the President of the Security Council. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is interested in the full implementation of the Vance Plan and its provisions, to which end it is exerting its best efforts.

In view of all the above, we are convinced that the conditions have still not been met for UNPROFOR to pull out from the territories under its protection. On the contrary, Croatian aggression illustrates that the United Nations Protection Force is even more needed today than a year ago in order to ensure the protection of the Serbian people in Krajina. Safeguarding peace and security in those areas directly helps the negotiating process in Geneva.

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, as a signatory to the Vance Plan, on the basis of which the Security Council made its decision on the deployment of the peace operation, calls strongly for the extension of the UNPROFOR mandate for the coming 12-month period. We therefore wish to ask you kindly to recommend this in your report to the Security Council.

Dr. Radoje KONTIC
Vice-President